

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

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Claim 1 (Currently Once Amended): In combination, a plurality of disks including a first disk and a second disk stacked upon said first disk, and a powder disposed between said first disk and said second disk, said powder facilitating removal of said first disk from said second disk, and protecting said first disk and said second disk when said second disk is stacked upon said first disk.

Claim 2 (Previously Once Amended): The combination recited in claim 1, wherein said first disk and said second disk are each comprised of one of a glass and glass ceramic.

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Claim 3 (Original): The combination recited in claim 2, wherein said powder spaces said first disk from said second disk.

Claim 4 (Original): The combination recited in claim 2, wherein said powder is comprised of an inorganic material.

Claim 5 (Original): The combination recited in claim 4, wherein said inorganic material is calcium carbonate.

Claim 6 (Original): The combination recited in claim 4, wherein said inorganic material is selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, calcium magnesium

carbonate, calcium phosphate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium borate, magnesium oxide, magnesium phosphate, and clay.

Claim 7 (Original): The combination recited in claim 2, wherein said powder is a mineral powder.

Claim 8 (Original): The combination recited in claim 2, wherein said powder has a size of about 200 mesh.

Claim 9 (Previously Once Amended): In combination, a plurality of disks including a first disk and a second disk stacked upon said first disk, and a powder disposed between said first disk and said second disk, wherein said first disk is spaced apart from said second disk by only said powder.

Claim 10 (Previously Once Amended): A method, comprising:  
providing at least a first disk and a second disk;  
stacking the first disk on the second disk; and  
providing a powder between a surface of the first disk and a surface of the second disk.

Claim 11 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, wherein said providing a powder utilizes the powder to space the surface of the first disk from the surface of the second disk.

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Claim 12 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, further comprising unstacking the first disk from the second disk utilizing the powder as a separation aid.

Claim 13 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, further comprising unstacking the first disk from the second disk, and polishing the surface of the first disk and the surface of the second disk using a slurry, the powder being selected so as to not affect a pH of the slurry.

Claim 14 (Original): The method recited in claim 13, wherein said polishing at least partially removes the powder from the surface of the first disk and from the surface of the second disk.

Claim 15 (Original): The method recited in claim 14, wherein said polishing includes dispersing the powder in the slurry to remove the powder from the surface of the first disk and from the surface of the second disk.

Claim 16 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, further comprising transporting the first disk and the second disk; and using the powder to protect the first disk and the second disk during said transporting.

Claim 17 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, wherein the first disk and the second disk are each comprised of glass.

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Claim 18 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, wherein the powder comprises an inorganic powder.

Claim 19 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, wherein the powder is comprised of calcium carbonate.

Claim 20 (Original): The method recited in claim 10, further comprising selecting the powder from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, calcium magnesium carbonate, calcium phosphate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium borate, magnesium oxide, magnesium phosphate, and clay.

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